

ings and ward visits, but they worked together with the wards in gathering, cleaning, mending and boxing clothing for shipment to needy Saints in Europe or other areas.

Sustained on August 17, 1947, was Dove Reese McAfee. She selected as her counselors Luella B. Fitzgerald and Thora M. Scheerer, with LaVada Thorn Harrison and Golda Locks Lee as secretaries. This group served together until February 22, 1953, when Relva Ritchie Price was sustained as president, with Faye Coleman McNaughton and Esther Smart as counselors and Mary Bethers, secretary. Other counselors to Sister Price included Mabel Lindsay Anderson and Fern Young. Secretaries also were Marie Popp Carlile and Maurine Henline Carlson. Faye Coleman McNaughton became the next president, sustained with her counselors Fern Young and Theola Swain on February 19, 1956. Maurine Henline Carlson served as secretary and then later became a counselor and Ella Yeates was called as secretary.

The present president, Maxine Clyde Carlile, was sustained August 31, 1958. Chosen as her counselors were Darlene Probst Shelton of Midway and Joyce Miller Edwards of Charleston. Secretary is Ella Yeates.

In a new Primary program announced in February, 1961, members of the stake Primary board were released to work in their wards and only a key group were retained on a stake level. Serving on the board are Sister Shelton and Lucy Brandt, counselors, Ella Yeates, secretary, Merle Rasband, music director and LaDene Webb, Scout director.

Space in this history has not permitted full mention of all who have served on the stake boards of the auxiliary organizations, but without their faithful and continued services to the programs of the Church the work in Wasatch Stake most certainly would not have progressed in the manner it has.

Missionary work has been another vital Church activity through the years in Wasatch Stake. The first missionary from the valley was called in 1865. He was Charles Shelton and served in New Brunswick, Canada. He left a wife and children in the valley and labored in the field four years. Thomas Hicken Sr. served on several short missions to Morgan and Kansas Counties in the 1860's.

Few other early missionaries were called from the community until President Brigham Young called several families to go on colonizing missions to help establish new areas. Joseph S. Murdock, then bishop of Heber, was called as a colonizer and to raise cotton in Southern Utah. Others who responded to calls were Addison Hicken, his wife and small daughter Rhoda; John H. Murdock, George Dablin and family of Wallburg and Moroni Blood and his family of Midway. Many later returned to their homes in the valley, but had to start all over again as they had used up all their resources.

By the 1880's and 1890's missionary calls came more frequently. The calls usually came to married men, often those with large families and

The "home mission" or Wasatch Stake Mission was organized at a stake quarterly conference in 1936. Joseph Jorgensen was the first president and served until 1946 when Francis Probst was sustained. Don L. Hicken was sustained in February, 1951. In 1952, Owen Buell, who had just returned from a foreign mission, was called as the president. He was later succeeded by John Barton Moulton and then Alvin W. Kohler. The most recent president is Wilson Young. There are presently 10 missionaries laboring in the stake mission.

Still another vital aspect of the work of the Church is the welfare program. Begun in 1936 as a means of enabling Church members to take care of themselves and get them off the rolls of public support and doles, the program has had good progress in Wasatch Stake.

Projects have been assigned by the general authorities to regions or areas of the Church, and from these projects come the commodities or cash needed to operate the program throughout the Church. To Wasatch Stake, and seven other stakes in the area came the assignment of a dairy farm. A farm was purchased north of Heber from Robert J. Davis. Later, Wasatch, Summit and South Summit stakes bought out the interests of the other stakes and conducted the project as a tri-stake activity. Then about 1949 each stake was advised to have its own individual project, and the dairy farm was bought and is operated now as the Wasatch Stake Dairy Farm.

The farm consists of 105 acres, and in addition there are 190 acres leased from the New Park Mining Company. Jay Swain is farm manager, and works with an operating committee of the stake. The first committee consisted of Vernon Price, John Barnard and Sylvan Rasband, secretary-treasurer. Presently serving are George Holmes, Lynden Chapman and Sylvan Rasband. Each ward in the stake contributes hay from their individual welfare projects or pays cash to help with farm expenses.

The farm presently includes about 60 cows producing some 800,000 pounds of milk each year.

add to history  
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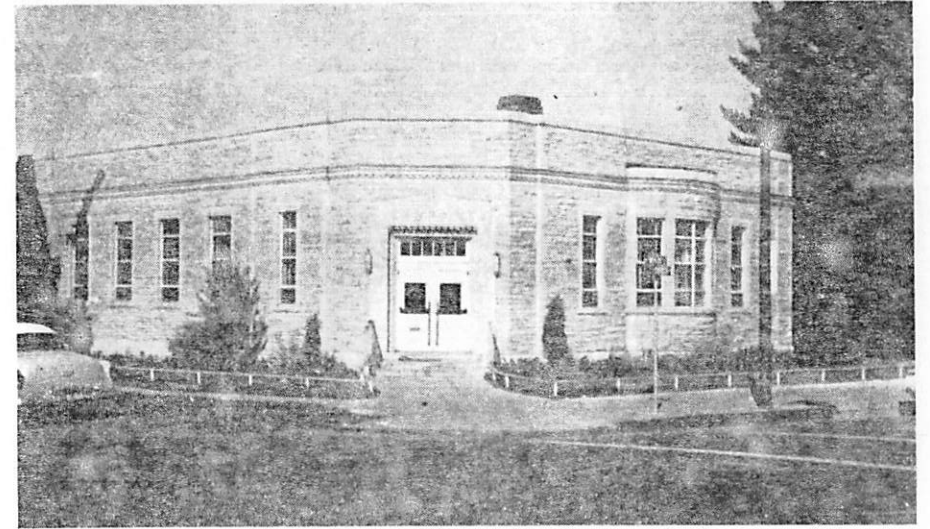
Co-Chairmen of the 1959 Wasatch County Centennial celebration were Arvel and Dove McAfee.

Members of the county commission also cooperated in improving Memorial Hill as a monument to servicemen of World War I. Main impetus for the memorial came from H. Clay Cummings and Sumner Hatch, officers of the Lockhart Post of the American Legion. D. A. Broadbent was also instrumental in having legislation passed enabling counties in the state to levy local taxes for memorial purposes. With these funds Wasatch County was able to purchase the hill and surrounding land. Much of the land was purchased from Elijah Watkins. Under Mr. Broadbent's personal supervision the spiral road up to the hill was constructed, and a memorial and beacon placed on top. The beacon was lighted each evening until vandals and pot-shot riflemen destroyed it beyond repair.



Members of the 1959 Wasatch County Centennial celebration fair board, left, front row, left to right, Dove McAfee, LaPreal Barnes, Betty Jones, Ida Watkins, Emily Conrad and Mary Bacon. Back row, left to right, Leslie McPhie, Wilson Young, William Sweeney, Earl Smith, William Jordan, Don Barker and Arvel McAfee, back.

Other projects promoted by the commission have included erection of a Memorial Building and fire station in 1934; construction of the Heber Valley Airport; establishment of transmitter stations to improve television reception in the valley and many zoning projects that have enhanced property values throughout the county.



The Wasatch County Library constructed in 1938 and 1939.

Through sound budgetary policies, most of the county roads are hard surfaced and maintained in good condition. Funds are also being set aside for construction of a new courthouse. By the time work begins, funds will have been accumulated to permit payment without burdensome bonding programs.

For over a century the selectmen and commissioners of Wasatch County have given mature, devoted and wise leadership in helping the county to grow and to provide the services necessary for comfortable, safe living.

Even though salaries have never been enough and rewards have had to come through the joys of service, those who have served could, almost in a chorus, join with the selectmen of some 70 years ago who recorded in their minutes at the close of a lengthy session of problems, complaints, rulings and decisions, "They adjourned the Court and departed, feeling pretty well satisfied with their labors."





Queen of the 1959 Wasatch County Centennial was Marion Johnson, center. Her attendants were Beverly Seiter, left and Joan Ritchie, right.

"Sweetheart of Yesteryears," with her attendants Elizabeth Moulton and Alice Thacker. "Miss Wasatch of 1959" was Marion Johnson, with attendants Joan Ritchie and Beverly Seiter. "Miss Dairy Princess" was Connie North, with attendants Mary Alder, Linda McGuire and Connie Pope.

Parades, band concerts, displays, exhibits, carnival rides and attractions, beard growing contests, suppers, luncheons and barbeques, flower shows and entertainment programs were all combined to make the 100th birthday party a celebration long to be remembered. Chairmen of the centennial event were Arvel and Dove McAfee.

Another cultural endeavor promoted by the county commission was the establishment of a county library. The first action on a library came April 10, 1919, when money was approved and a board of directors appointed.

The library was to be located in Heber City, and quarters were selected above the Heber Mercantile Company. Members of the first board of directors included John M. Ritchie, John A. Fortie, Storm McDonald, Nellie C. DeGraff and Ida Wootton. A tax levy not to exceed one mill on each dollar of taxable property in the county was approved to be used in establishing and maintaining the library. All other efforts to establish a library, such as the Heber City Library in 1907 and the early Literary Club Library, were merged with the county library when it was established.



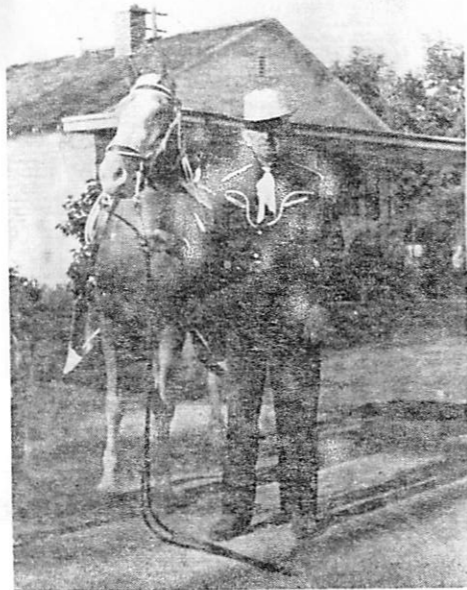
Beard growing was a popular contest during the 1959 County Centennial Celebration. Some of the prize "crops" are shown here on their owners. left to right, seated: Jack Moulton, Reg Tadd, Willis Clyde, Ray Kohler and Charles McPhie; and standing, left to right, Glen Jensen, Albert Winterrose, Grant Giles, Ken Ryan, Leslie McPhie, Stacey Murdock and Farrell Reynolds.

Quarters above the mercantile store were used for a short time and then the library was moved to part of the Heber Merc that had been occupied by the C. W. & M. Company. It was there until 1937 when fire destroyed the building and the entire library, except for books on loan at the time.

Temporary quarters were given to the library in the L.D.S. Seminary Building near Wasatch High School, and investigations were started to find another site. A building at the site of the present Ideal Cafe was rented, and then on August 30, 1938, a new building was begun as a cooperative venture with the county and the Works Progress Administration. Gronamon & Son, Contractors of Provo received the bid for construction for \$21,990. The completed building was accepted on October 6, 1939. The library continued its growth in new quarters under the able direction of Mrs. Nellie C. DeGraff.

Another library milestone came in 1952 when the library board and the Wasatch County Board of Education signed an agreement on May 14, to consolidate the facilities, books, financial resources and personnel of the county and school libraries. The joint administration, which improved services and facilities for both groups, has continued from September, 1952 to the present time. The capable, efficient librarian is Clyde Muir.





Charles E. Bronson, now 86 years old, and still active with the Heber Riding Club, lead the Wasatch County Centennial Parade in 1959.



"Queens of Yesteryear" at the 1959 Wasatch County Centennial celebration were, left to right, Alice Wagstaff Thacker, attendant; Minnie Lindsay Crook, queen; and Elizabeth Anderson Moulton, attendant.

meetings, outings and genealogical sessions were conducted, concluded on Sunday, July 27 with sessions of the stake quarterly conference.

Another significant celebration came in 1947 when throughout the state the Church observed the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the Mormon Pioneers. Wasatch Stake held a valley-wide celebration from July 15 through 19 and in addition hosted the Black Hawk Encampment.



The Wasatch County Dairy Princess and her court during the 1959 County Centennial celebration were, left to right, Connie Pope, attendant; Connie North, princess; Linda McGuire and Mary Alder, attendants.

The county fair was also planned for that time. A parade, featuring Miss ReNee Thacker as Wasatch County Queen was held. Attendants to the queen were Miss NaDene Sweat and Miss Eileen Dearden.

When the regular Wasatch County Fair was begun in 1925, Lyman Rich was appointed chairman and served until 1929. Other chairmen during the years have included J. M. Ritchie, 1930-38; H. Clay Cummings, 1939; J. A. Anderson, 1940; R. C. Draper, 1941 and 1943; John A. Anderson, 1947; Louis J. Adams, 1948-49; W. J. Bond, 1950; Myron C. Gale, 1951-52; Arvel McAfee, 1953 to 1960 and J. W. Jordan, 1960-. No fairs were held in 1942 or from 1944 to 1947 because of wartime conditions.

An outstanding fair and celebration was held in 1959 when Wasatch County celebrated its centennial. Former residents came from all parts of the country to enjoy the many entertainments and reunions. Several queens and their attendants were honored, including Minnie L. Crook,



about the causes which led to the country's founding fathers throwing off the yoke of tyranny. John Crook then sang the "Star Spangled Banner," after which James A. Smith and Richard Sessions addressed the congregation.

Following the addresses the band played "Auld Lang Syne," and toasts were proposed, with three cheers offered for the Fourth of July and for President Brigham Young.

Committee for the day's events included William M. Wall, John Witt, John M. Murdoch, John Gallagher and John Hamilton the town marshal.

One of the first public exhibits in the community came in the early 1870's when a group of public spirited men organized what they called "The Agricultural Association." Through this group an exhibit of all local products was put together and free government seed was distributed to everyone interested. The exhibit or fair was held in the Old Hall or Social Hall on Main Street. This same association promoted fruit tree planting, and would make arrangements for anyone interested to obtain the desired trees.

Special fairs have been sponsored by several organizations during the years, and mention is made here of some occasioned by special events.



Emma Hatch (later Mrs. W. R. Wherritt) who was Wasatch County Queen when Utah became a state in 1896.

Utah's attainment of statehood in 1896 was a cause for celebration throughout the state and in Wasatch County as well. Each county in the state was invited to select a queen who would represent the area in the state-wide celebration as a maid of honor to the state's Carnival Queen.

Emma Hatch (Wherritt) was chosen as Wasatch County's representative, and participated in many gala events.

An especially successful fair and celebration took place in 1924 when the Stake MIA, acting on a suggestion of the MIA General Board, sponsored a "Wasatch County Homecoming and Round-Up." Elder Oscar A. Kirkham of the general board visited with the stake and presented the idea, which was received with such overwhelming enthusiasm that the schools, the city and county governments and all the communities in the valley joined with the MIA to sponsor the event.



ReNee Thacker (Carlile) reigned as Wasatch County Queen during Utah's Centennial Celebration in 1947. Attendants shown here on the county float were Nadene Sweat and Eileen Dearden.

John A. Anderson, stake YMMIA superintendent, and Josephine Broadbent, YLMIA president of the stake, were in charge of the celebration, assisted by members of their stake boards.

Individual communities in the valley held home-coming celebrations on July 24, which was a Thursday. Then on Friday, July 25, the whole stake joined together for a program and celebration on the Tabernacle grounds. A grand parade, baseball at the city park, a free barbeque at which three beef were roasted, rodeo, wrestling matches, an operetta by the Primary children, fireworks from an airplane and a dance were some of the events held during this day. Then on Saturday, July 26, family



to the State Legislature. County school superintendents who served during the period before appointments were made by the Board of Education included Attewell Wootton Sr., Orson Ryan and D. A. Broadbent.

The name most prominently included in the Wasatch County Commission during the years has been that of Guy E. Coleman, who retired at the end of 1960 after more than 30 years as a commissioner. His record was the longest period of service as a county commissioner of anyone in the state of Utah.

As a tribute to his years of service, Mr. Coleman was presented the Mark Tuttle Award for outstanding county leadership during 1960. The award was given at the annual convention of the Utah Association of County Officials held in Salt Lake City in January, 1961.

Of his many accomplishments as a commissioner for 30 years and head of the commission for 20 of those years, Mr. Coleman took most pride in keeping the county debt free, especially during the difficult depression years, and still being able to carry out construction and public works projects as they were needed.

Other county commissioners or officers who have given long years of service include Jesse Nelson, 18 years and E. J. Cummings 10 years; Guy Duke, county assessor for 39 years and still serving in 1961; John M. Ritchie and Alfred Sharp, county clerk, 30 years.

Service from the federal and state governments has been evident in the county through programs of the Cooperative Extension Service in agriculture and home economics. The program, administered in Wasatch County through the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Utah State University and the Wasatch County Commission, aims at helping people solve problems they encounter in agriculture, home economics, community improvements and civil defense.

Major areas of emphasis include efficiency in agricultural production, efficiency in marketing, distribution and utilization, conservation development and use of natural resources, management on the farm and in the home, family living, youth development which includes the 4-H program, leadership development, community improvement and resource development and an active public affairs program.

Officers of the Extension Service work with farm families and non-farm families alike, with rural and urban residents, farm organizations as well as individuals, and organizations that purchase, process and distribute farm produce. They also work with groups providing information, services or supplies to farm people.

The Cooperative Extension Service began in Wasatch County in September, 1917, when E. R. Price was appointed county agricultural agent. He served until June, 1925, and was succeeded by Lyman H. Rich, who worked in the county until November 30, 1930. Other county agents and their periods of service include Russell Keetch, November 30, 1930, to November 30, 1935; J. M. Peterson, December 1, 1935 to November

15, 1936; John J. Barnard, November 16, 1936 to September 14, 1944; Merrill E. Cook, September 15, 1944 to April 1, 1945; L. Darrell Stokes, June 15, 1948 to June 30, 1955, and Paul R. Daniels, July 1, 1955 to the present.

Adult home economics work was first conducted in 1917 also, but it was 1924 before a regular county home demonstration agent was appointed. She was Ruby Smith, and she served until 1928. From 1928 to 1948 the home economics program was under the direction of the county agricultural agents. Training was given by specialists through the Relief Society and other women's organizations. Special projects included bread making, salad making, home management, home-made household convenience, clothing, home nursing, first aid and personal hygiene.

In 1948, Mary R. Bacon was appointed as county home demonstration agent and still serves the county today. Because of the area's changing economy, and a greater number of women working, stress is being given today to the management of time, energy and money.

An influential program among Wasatch County youth has been the 4-H Club work. When the 4-H program began in 1917 there were 10 girls and 14 boys enrolled. Nine of the girls and 10 of the boys completed the program. Today, in 1961, the work has grown until there are 231 girls enrolled and 69 boys, with 220 of the girls and 61 of the boys completing a full course of activities. Adult leadership programs have also been successful in the county, with 98 persons from the valley attending 4-H leader's conferences.

Improvement of cultural activities in the valley has always been the concern of the commission, and in the 1920's the commissioners appropriated \$5,000 to purchase a site for county fair grounds. From this action has come the annual Wasatch County Fair and Livestock Show. Held in August of each year, the fair is anticipated for months in advance by those who make preparations and those who come to enjoy its many facets.

While the annual county fair began in the 1920's, celebrations and exhibits are nearly as old as the settlement of the valley. Typical of early celebrations was one held on July 4, 1863. Captain Thomas Todd's company of infantry announced the day's dawning with muskets, while the martial band played "Hail, Columbia." By 10 a.m. the citizens had met on the public square to participate in the procession. Leading off were members of the infantry company and the martial band. Prof. Greer and his pupils and then the citizens came next, with Sydney Epperson and a company of cavalry bringing up the rear. They marched to the bowery where Captain Todd and company fired salutes and a program began.

On the program, Bishop Joseph S. Murdock offered the invocation. Music was furnished by the choir, after which Judge Witt read the Declaration of Independence. The martial band then offered a salute and musical selection. President William M. Wall delivered an oration



Cummings, Barr W. Musser. 1909, E. J. Cummings, Geo. W. Daybell, John W. Moffitt. 1911, E. J. Cummings, George Daybell, John W. Moffitt. 1913, H. W. Harvey, E. J. Cummings, John W. Moffitt. 1915, H. W. Harvey, E. J. Cummings, John M. Ritchie. 1917, Wilford Van Wagoner, E. J. Cummings, John M. Ritchie. 1919, George A. Huntington, H. W. Harvey, John M. Ritchie. 1921, John Van Wagoner, H. W. Harvey, J. Parley Edwards. 1923, John A. Fortie, John M. Ritchie, J. Parley Edwards. 1925, Andrew Murdock, John M. Ritchie, Clark Bronson. 1927, Andrew Murdock, Paul Hunt, Nels J. Johnson. 1929, Jesse Nelson, Paul Hunt, Sumner Hatch. (1931, Jesse Nelson, Guy E. Coleman, Sumner Hatch. 1933, Jesse Nelson, Guy E. Coleman, Sumner Hatch. 1935, Jesse Nelson, Guy E. Coleman, Joseph T. Murdock. 1937, H. Clay Cummings, Guy E. Coleman, George A. Gardner. 1939, H. Clay Cummings, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson. 1941, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson, Harry Morris. 1943, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson, John Anderson. 1945, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson, John Anderson. 1947, Guy E. Coleman, Floyd Bonner, John Anderson. 1949, Guy E. Coleman, Clyde Ritchie, Heber R. Winterton. 1951, Guy E. Coleman, Clyde Ritchie, Heber R. Winterton. 1953, Guy E. Coleman, James L. Barnes, Heber R. Winterton. 1955, Guy E. Coleman, William J. Bond, James L. Barnes. 1957, Guy E. Coleman, William J. Bond, Elmo A. Jacobsen, 1959, Guy E. Coleman, William J. Bond, Walter Montgomery.

Treasurers having held office are: John M. Murdock, James Duke, William H. McDonald, Joseph Hatch, Robert Duke, Richard Tilt, William McMillan, LaVina Murdock, Millie Witt, Gladys Briggs, Geneva B. Clift, Mabel Murdock, Mary L. Giles, Grace Crook (Buys) June J. Wheeler.

Assessors: John Harvey, Thomas H. Giles, Charles N. Carroll, John Huber, George Giles, J. W. Witt, Thomas Hicken Jr., P. H. McGuire, Jacob Probst, J. Parley Edwards, J. T. Pyper, Guy Duke.

Surveyors: John Sessions, William Buys, S. A. Bond, George Barzee, B. S. Kershaw, Edward Buys, Craig Harmiston, A. R. Duke and Harry A. Doppler.

Recorders and Clerks: Charles Shelton, John Gallagher, T. H. Giles, Joseph A. Murdock, John T. Giles, C. J. Wahlquist, James R. McNaughtan, Thomas S. Watson, James C. Jensen, Charles E. Bronson, Alfred Sharp, Wayne C. Whiting.

Attorneys: Silas Smith, R. Camp, William Buys, M. J. Shelton, W. S. Willes, C. J. Wahlquist, L. C. Montgomery, Edwin D. Hatch, George B. Stanley, Glen S. Hatch, Glen M. Hatch, J. Harold Call, Richard L. Maxfield.

Sheriffs: Snelling A. Johnson, John Hamilton, Richard Jones, John Clyde, J. H. Fraughton, James S. Murdock, W. S. Willis, Robert Clyde, William Bonner, J. O. Wall, Virgil Fraughton, George Durnell, William Murray, Charles McPhie, Eugene D. Payne, Floyd L. Witt.

The following have served as Representatives to Legislature: J. B. Wilson, John T. Giles, Rock M. Pope, W. L. Van Wagoner, George A. Fisher, Fredrick Crook, Paul Hunt, James B. Wilson, William L. Van Wagoner, Wayne C. Whiting, Don Clyde, Welby Young, Harold Stevens, Addison C. Moulton, Leland W. Ivers and Robert F. Clyde.

State senators from Wasatch County have been J. B. Wilson, J. W. Clyde and Glen M. Hatch, Jr. Robert F. Clyde is current representative



Guy E. Coleman, winner of the 1960 Mark Tuttle Award for outstanding county leadership during 30 years as a member of the Wasatch County Commission.



Utah became a state. All county offices became elected positions, and included the following:

Three commissioners, two with four-year terms and one with a two-year term; county clerk, recorder, auditor, treasurer, assessor, attorney, and surveyor, all four-year terms. The offices of clerk, recorder and auditor were later combined in 1899.

Probate judges who served until statehood included Judge Witt, 1862-1868; Abram Hatch, 1868-1874; Thomas H. Giles, 1874-1884; Thomas S. Watson, 1884-1894; William S. Willes, 1894-1896.

Selectmen who served in the era prior to statehood included Thomas Todd, James Duke, John H. Van Wagoner, Sidney Epperson, Henry McMullin Sr., D. A. Sessions, David Van Wagonen, John McDonald, John W. Witt, William H. Nuttall, H. L. Anderson, John Watkins, Abram Hatch, William McDonald, George W. Clyde, Alva J. Alexander, Joseph R. Murdock, Harmon Cummings, John Clyde, Charles I. Bronson, John A. Mecham, Wilford Van Wagoner and Isaac O. Wall.

Probate judges and selectmen held many of their early meetings in the old LDS Tithing Office, a sandstone building on Main Street and First North. Later a County Court House was proposed and on March 4, 1878, the south half of the public square was selected as the court house site. Thomas H. Giles and Abram Hatch were appointed to direct the erection of the building.

Records of the construction work are incomplete, but work apparently was underway by June since the records show authorization to pay claims of contractors as of June 3, 1878. On September 2, 1878, authorization was granted by the selectmen for borrowing necessary funds to finish at least one room of the building, but work apparently lagged as construction was still being recorded in the minutes on March 8, 1880.

By September 6, 1880, the court house committee reported to the selectmen that expenditures totaled \$3,793.66. Work was apparently completed by September of 1882 when costs were reported at about \$4,600, plus \$250 for furniture. Further records show installation of a safe in 1886, landscaping in 1889 and then additional construction and remodeling to the building's present condition in 1924.

From the beginning, selectmen had many problems to solve. Roads had to be located, bridges built, rights of property safeguarded and money collected to meet expenses. This latter tax often proved the most difficult. One entry in the minutes of the selectmen reads as follows:

"The assessor reports, taxes assessed. Collected, \$147.18. Taxes past due \$327.23." The minutes of the next session tersely states: "A new assessor and collector was appointed."

Other problems facing the selectmen included requests for help in repairing or replacing bridges damaged or destroyed by flood waters, called for fence viewers to determine correct property lines, petitions to



Wasatch County officials of 1961. Front row, left to right: Wayne C. Whiting, county clerk and recorder; Guy E. Coleman, chairman of the county commission; William J. Bond, county commissioner; Walter Montgomery, county commissioner; Second row: Guy Duke, assessor; Mary Chipman, deputy clerk; June Wheeler, treasurer; Shirley Chatwin, deputy clerk; Ethel Giles, secretary to the county agent; Mary Bacon, home demonstration agent; Back Row, Paul Daniels, county agricultural agent; Floyd Witt, sheriff; Jerry Smith, deputy sheriff; A. D. Buys, justice of the peace of the Heber precinct; Albin Hansen, custodian of the court house and grounds. Richard L. Maxfield, county attorney.

establish herd ground on public domain and requests from citizens for protection from the influx of excessive livestock from other counties.

There were also the legal problems related to justice and the suppression of crime. Business licenses and franchise also had to be granted, and liquor control had to be enforced. For a period, also, the selectmen had responsibilities for directing the school precincts and the superintendent.

Statehood in 1896 brought a full county commission organization, with John Clyde, Isaac O. Wall and Wilford Van Wagoner selected as the first commissioners.

Salaries for those first selected included \$100 a year for commissioners; \$650 per year for the sheriff; \$500 per year for the clerk, with the recorder receiving \$200 per year, the surveyor \$100 per year and the county superintendent of schools \$360 per year.

Those who have served as commissioners through the years have included the following: 1897, Wilford Van Wagoner, Thomas Clotworthy, William Daybell. 1899, Thomas Clotworthy, Isaac O. Wall and Richard Jones. 1901, Henry Clift, A. M. Murdock, Henry T. Coleman, 1903, John E. Austin, F. A. Fraughton, Henry T. Coleman. 1905, John E. Austin, F. A. Fraughton, Jacob Probst. 1907, Jacob Probst, E. J.



elected by the voters; a county school superintendent, appointed by the court; an assessor and collector, appointed by the court; a recorder, elected by voters; a surveyor, appointed by the court; a prosecuting attorney, elected by the Legislature; a sheriff, elected by the people; a Justice of Peace and coroner, and two constables for each precinct, elected; an estray pound keeper for each precinct, elected; two fence viewers in each precinct, elected; a road commissioner, appointed by the court and precinct road supervisors to be elected in each precinct.

The Legislature elected John W. Witt as probate judge in the county and on February 22, 1862, Judge Witt organized the county organization as follows: Selectmen, Thomas Todd, James Duke and John H. Van Wagoner; assessor and collector, John Harvey; Sheriff, Snelling M. Johnson; treasurer, John M. Murdoch; surveyor, John Sessions and Thomas H. Giles, superintendent of common schools.

The court divided the county into two precincts. All the area east of the Provo River was placed in Precinct No. 1 and Thomas Rashband was appointed Justice of the Peace with Zemira Palmer as constable. Precinct No. 2 was all the area west of the Provo River, and Norton Jacobs was named Justice of the Peace. Sidney Epperson was constable. Clerk of the court was Charles Shelton.

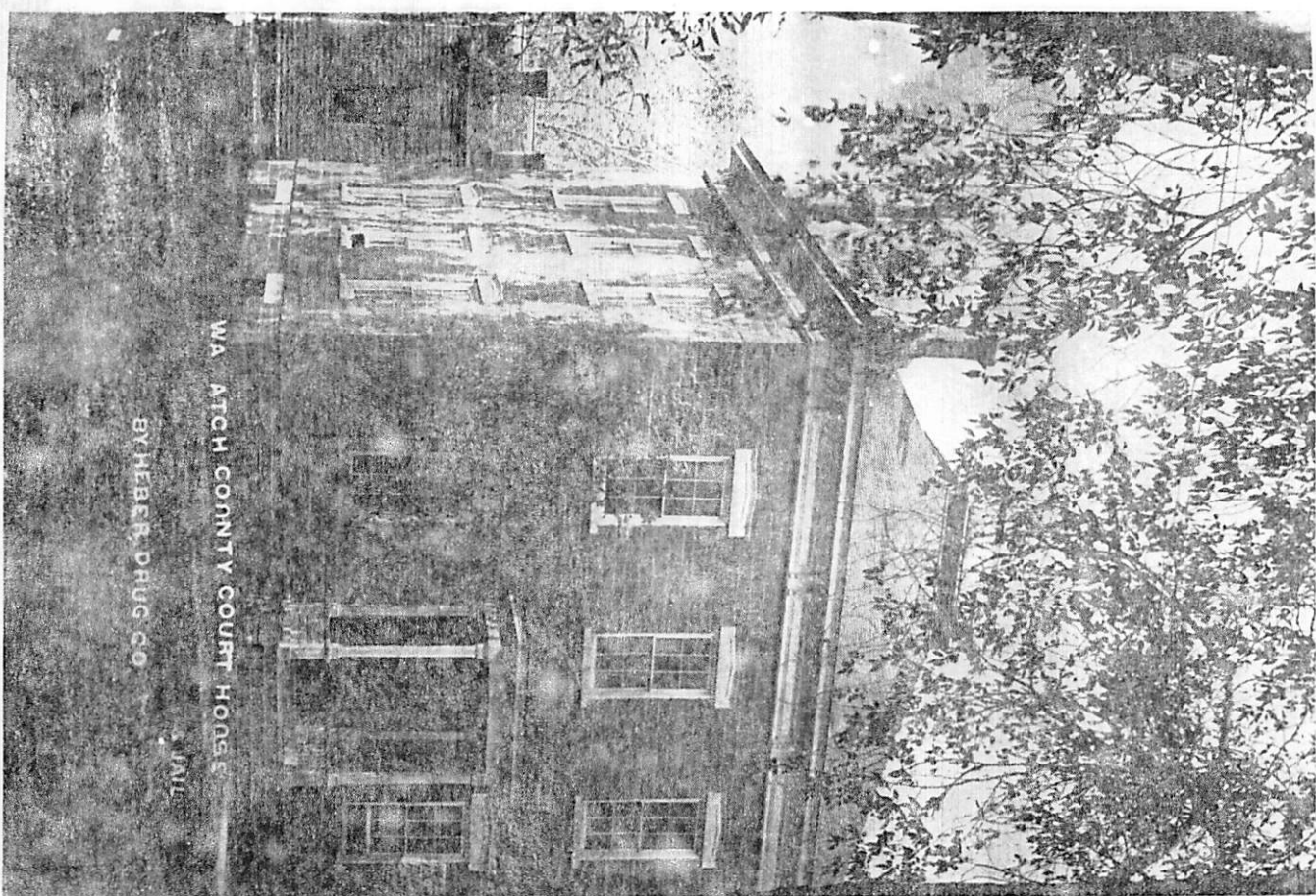
Until the time of statehood the county court headed by the Probate Judge constituted the chief legal power of the county. By act of Congress the Probate Judge was also a key figure in land titles, having power to enter claims in the U.S. Land Office and receive titles in return for those inhabiting the lands. Many land titles today are still traced back to a deed from the old probate judges.

With the passage of time the probate judge and the county court were weakened as state and federal governmental bodies began to centralize their controls. In 1864 the Federal Government restricted the legal power of the Probate Court to the settlement of estates, guardianships and divorce matters.

Additional responsibilities for the Probate or County Court came in 1872 when the selectmen were appointed by the Legislature to erect a county jail and act as directors of the establishment, and in 1878 when the court was appointed as a Board of Equalization to adjust tax assessments and appoint election judges for each precinct.

In 1880, however, provisions of the Edmunds-Tucker Act made the office of Probate Judge an appointment of the President of the United States and transferred all divorce actions from the probate to district court. Election laws were also changed, taking power away from the probate court. The office of county clerk was made an elective position in 1888 and in that same year the precinct and county road offices were consolidated into the office of District Road Supervisor.

The most drastic changes in county government came in 1896 when



The Wasatch County Court House constructed between 1878 and 1882. In the background is the County Jail.



Each of the speakers commended the residents of the valley for their fine spirit of cooperation in making the park possible.

"The history of Utah is a history of cooperation and there has never been a greater story than this one here," Governor Clyde remarked.

President Moyle encouraged everyone to show continued "statesmanship" in bringing the reality of the park to fulfillment.

"I believe we could follow no wiser course than to permit the state to outline the course to follow because the State Park Commission are sufficiently removed to paint a much more impartial, more fair and wiser picture of the park development and bring it to successful use. This is not alone a Heber Valley park, nor just a state park, it is a national project and those who have contributed are to be highly praised," President Moyle said.

In the meantime, the Wasatch County Commission took steps to zone a half-mile buffer area around the park to prohibit commercial developments and land speculation in the areas nearest the park site. The zoning prohibited all but farms and single dwellings within one-half mile of the park.

The cooperation of Wasatch residents in bringing about the park won recognition throughout the state, but to those in the county it was another pioneering step and another record of accomplishment and achievement by its governing board, the Wasatch County Commission.

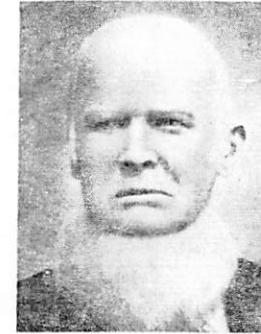
County government, as noted in the previous chapter, began in 1862 with the formation of the county court and appointment of selectmen as officers of the court. The board of selectmen served in the county until 1896 when statehood was granted Utah, and the commission form of county government was adopted.

Many changes have occurred in a century of life in the valley, with government influence growing from Church-centered control to an active board of commissioners. Yet, in spite of a more complex organization, the fundamental principles of county government have remained constant. The early minute books of the old selectmen and the latest records of the county commission all reflect a desire on the part of elected officials to set aside partisanship and selfishness and give citizens throughout the valley effective and efficient leadership.

As noted in the previous chapter, the first county organization was established on January 17, 1862, by act of the Territorial Legislature. The various offices of county government designated at that time were as follows:

Probate Judge, elected by the legislature; three county selectmen, elected by voters of the county, with the judge and the selectmen to constitute the county court. There was also a clerk appointed by the court, a treasurer elected by voters for a four-year term; a notary public, elected by the Legislature; a county surveyor, elected by the county; three election judges, appointed by the court; three school board trustees,

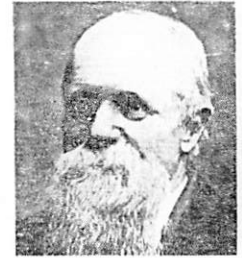
## First Officials of Wasatch County



John W. Witt  
Judge



Thomas Todd  
Selectman



James Duke  
Selectman



John H. Van Wagoner  
Selectman



John Harvey  
Assessor and Collector



John M. Murdock  
Treasurer



Thomas H. Giles  
Superintendent of common  
schools



John Hamilton  
Sheriff

Snelling M. Johnson  
Sheriff  
(No picture available)

John Sessions  
Surveyor  
(No picture available)



"Every indication is that future generations will have as much reason to be thankful for the vision that preserved that magnificent area for the public as the present generation has for those who preserved Yellowstone and Grand Canyon and Bryce and Zion and the rest.

"Perhaps this park will be even more valuable. It is on the very edge of a metropolitan complex that will include a million people within another half-century. It offers the brightest hope that those million people will have a place to escape quickly and often from daily pressures, to seek solitude and the spiritual regeneration that can come from nature.

"The western slope of the Wasatch, with its beautiful canyons, will always be limited in its recreation potential because of the problem of keeping the valley's drinking water pure. The park nearing reality on the eastern slope will have no such limitation. It can be developed with recreation almost the sole consideration.

"What the Park Commissioners have on their planning boards is a 24,000-acre tract of mountain and meadow land stretching from the shores of Deer Creek Reservoir north beyond Guardsman Pass. It is, essentially, the land on the opposite side of the mountain from American Fork and Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons.

"The area is unbelievably beautiful. It offers the possibility of countless excellent campsites and picnic grounds connected by roads winding peacefully through inspiring country. It offers slopes for skiing development, that connected by lifts with the Alta-Brighton complex, can surpass anything else in America. Plans are developing for a major resort hotel with golf course and winter and summer sports, with part of the income going to the state.

"Present tax income from lands included in the proposed park run \$4,020 a year. Grazing permits alone would produce at least \$21,311 a year, before development even begins.

"Thanks to some hard work by the Park Commission itself under its able chairman, Harold Fabian, and to a dedicated group of Heber Valley leaders under H. Clay Cummings, options have been obtained on practically all the land needed. The Commission is ready now to spend \$350,000 for the key piece of property, a 494-acre tract, and will ask nearly \$1 million from the Legislature for the rest.

"This is an investment in the future—and in the present, too, for that matter—that Utah simply cannot afford to pass up. Utahns owe their gratitude for the hard work and vision that have made possible the fulfillment of this dream, and will expect the Legislature to be sure the opportunity is not lost."

Land purchases and option work continued through 1960 and by December 9, 1960, the commission reported that it had purchased 516 acres in the nucleus area and in addition had placed options on 20,326 more acres at \$30 per acre or slightly more for some plots of irrigated farm land.

At a December meeting of the commission Mr. Fabian called progress on the park and the land options "A remarkable story."

"All of these people have been very cooperative and helpful and we have treated everyone equally and fairly on the whole program," he said.

The year 1961 saw the bi-annual session of the Utah Legislature and enactment of Senate Bill 242 appropriating approximately \$1.5 million dollars for acquisition costs of park land. Governor Clyde signed the bill at appropriate ceremonies on Friday, March 10, 1961, at the State Capitol Building.

In his first official statement after signing of the legislation, Mr. Fabian praised the cooperation and team-work involved in the project.

"This has been a tremendous team effort from the state," Mr. Fabian said. "The residents of Heber Valley and Midway who cooperated in giving options, the Legislature, Governor Clyde for signing the law, the commissioners—everyone deserved high praise and credit for the job. I think I am more thrilled about the remarkable job of community effort and cooperation—the team effort of everyone—than anything else," he said.

Mr. Fabian also explained that the first steps toward the new park would be to map out plans for development.

"We want to start on the development just as soon as we can plan what we are going to do. This will have to be a long-range program, with integrated planning with the National Forest Service, whose land borders part of ours. We just can't jump into a full-blown park. We will pick up the options on the land as money becomes available, but we are going to start on planning right away," Mr. Fabian said.

The law, as passed by the legislature, allowed the park commission to acquire, on a time payment basis at three per cent interest, the necessary acreage of mountain land over a 10-year period.

Mr. Cummings, who worked with the park commission and residents of the area in securing the options was called in 1960 to a special mission for the LDS Church in Hawaii, and then subsequently as president of the Church's New Zealand Mission. He was succeeded in the park commission work by Nephi Probst.

So elated at the new park development and the action of the legislature and governor were the residents of Wasatch County that they held a victory celebration on Tuesday, April 4, 1961. "Heber Valley—U.S.A." was the theme of the testimonial banquet conducted in the Midway Town Hall and attended by more than 300 county residents and state officials.

Speakers included Harold Smith, president of the Wasatch Chamber of Commerce, Governor Clyde, President Moyle, Mr. Fabian and Richard Van Winkle, chairman of the State Road Commission. Glen Hatch, Heber attorney and former state senator, was master of ceremonies.



## CHAPTER FOUR

### *... And They Governed Wisely*

Men of every generation are pioneers. Inside each soul there burns a dream that somewhere there is a wilderness, some place, some achievement or some task that is still unfound, unimagined or forgotten.

Those who tamed the wilderness lands of Provo Valley clearly saw their pioneering challenges. In desolate places they built their homes, churches and communities. Other pioneers crossed barren wastes in covered wagons. Some created new irrigation canals and streams, while others felled trees in forest lands and created new business, industrial, agricultural and mining pursuits. Still other pioneers formed the laws and provided the governing direction for orderly growth and development of the budding Wasatch County.

Such pioneering spirit and enthusiasm were found in each succeeding generation in the county as accomplishments and achievements were recorded year after year.

As the county's second century dawned, one of the greatest pioneering ventures ever dreamed of in the valley began to take shape. In the beautiful mountains west of Midway there was proposed a park and recreation development second to none in the state.

To be known as the Wasatch Mountain State Park, the area of some 25,000 acres would be restricted for playground, resort, camping and sports activities. The primitive beauty of the region would be preserved, and inadequate or over-commercialized ventures would be prohibited.

Much of the impetus for the development came from the Wasatch County Commission headed by Guy E. Coleman, from President Henry D. Moyle, counselor in the First Presidency of the LDS Church, and Harold P. Fabian, chairman of the Utah State Park and Recreation Commission.

The idea won almost immediate approval as it was advanced and talked about in 1958 and 1959. So enthusiastic was everyone that over-zealous land promoters nearly ruined the entire project. Late in 1959, the prices of land zoomed so high that state officials decided they could never buy the 25,000 acres needed at prices within the state's budget.

This crisis was the call for cooperative pioneering, and the county commission under Mr. Coleman's direction, and H. Clay Cummings, former Wasatch Stake President and special representative for the Park and Recreation Commission, began efforts to negotiate reasonable prices for options on the land.

So successful were their efforts that by the middle of January, 1960, Mr. Coleman was able to assure state officials that landowners in the area were fully behind state efforts and would cooperate in every way.

At a meeting on Friday, January 15, 1960, the Park and Recreation Commission, after hearing the assurances, voted to accept the offer of cooperation and authorized work to go ahead towards acquisition of the needed land. One member of the state commission remarked at the meeting that the Wasatch Park "... would be the greatest thing that could be done for the state."

President Moyle also attended the meeting and offered to donate 100 acres of land in the fringe areas of the proposed state park.

About a week later, Utah Governor George D. Clyde added his sanction and approval to the actions of the Park and Recreation Commission, stating:

"Such a year-around playground as is planned would be close to the center of the state's population and could become a great asset."

Gov. Clyde further promised to work closely with park commission officials in their efforts to obtain options on needed land.

With the governor's approval, the park commission then announced on Wednesday, January 27, 1960, that it would spend \$350,000 on the Wasatch Park from funds authorized for site development by the 1959 Utah Legislature. The sum was specified to be used in obtaining some 508 acres as a nucleus for the state park.

In the meantime, officials of the commission and private enterprises interested in developing facilities within the park began making drawings and proposals for park features. Newspapers of the state backed the proposed park, and even ran questionnaire forms asking what facilities would be most advantageous and acceptable. Plans were also being formulated to ask the 1961 Utah Legislature for at least \$1 million dollars more to pick up options on the remaining 20,000 acres.

Typical of the support given the park development is this editorial in the June 15, 1960, issue of The Deseret News and Salt Lake Telegram, entitled "A Priceless Investment for Utah":

"What would the Mountain West be like today if, instead of public-spirited, far-visioned men, the developers of the Yellowstone region in Wyoming had been speculators interested in a fast dollar?

"What value would there be to the public today if Zions and Bryce and the Grand Canyon and any number of other such wonders had been surrounded by honky-tonks or by private estates from which the public was barred?

"What man today even considers the original dollar cost of protecting and developing those areas, compared to their priceless value today?

"These questions are germane to the announcement this week that the Utah Park and Recreation Commission is prepared to acquire immediately the 'heart' of the proposed Wasatch Mountain State Park and will ask the Legislature to appropriate funds to acquire the rest.

